

Green Mountain Care Board
89 Main Street
Montpelier, VT 05620

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DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

August 24, 2016

Mr. James Trimarchi
Southwestern Vermont Medical Center
100 Hospital Drive
Bennington, VT 05201

RE: Docket No. GMCB-017-15con, Purchase and Installation of Replacement of Boilers and Related Construction of a 3,600 Square Foot Building to House Boiler, Project Cost: \$3,750,000.

Dear Jim:

Thank you for the responses to our first set of questions. To complete the review of your application, responses are required for the following questions. Please note that questions 6-10 address cost and efficiency requirements of CON Standards 1.9 and 1.10.

1. Schematic Design Narrative and Drawings:

1. Controls

- Please describe the controls interface between the new plant and the existing facility.
- Please provide some details on the intended control room for the boiler plant and the interface available to operate and optimize boiler performance.

2. Life Safety

- Please describe the life safety/fire alarm interface between the new plant and the existing facility.
- Will the new plant be provided with sprinkler coverage?
- Will the entire boiler building be on backup power? How will life safety loads be separated?

3. Redundancy

- The entire facility will depend upon the reliability of this plant. Please describe how redundancy has been taken into account in the design of the boilers, make up water, electrical, controls, and other systems.



4. Utilities
 - Please describe which utilities (other than the fuel sources) will be brought to the building. Please detail quantities, and where these will be tied into the main building.
5. Please provide financial and logistical justification for the additional \$500K expenditure for the “Biomass Preparation Measures” given the fact that the Biomass conversion is estimated to cost \$3M and has not been reviewed to determine financial favorability at this time.
6. Provide any cost analysis completed on the installation of a wood chip combustor as part of the proposed construction or as a retrofit.
7. Are there more detailed construction documents available than were provided with the application? If yes, please provide. Please also provide any analysis or study regarding the overall suitability of the site for future conversion to wood chips as a fuel source.
8. Provide the following energy cost assumptions used to develop the savings of the CNG project.
 - a. most recent #6 fuel oil unit cost (i.e. \$/gallon)
 - b. annual fuel oil input in MMBtu used for developing the cost listed in the application
 - c. annual natural gas input in MMBtu used for developing the cost listed in the application
 - d. natural gas unit cost used for developing the annual fuel cost listed in the application.
9. Provide the most recent propane price quote used to evaluate whether propane would be a viable fuel.
10. Provide the pressure rating of the proposed Hurst boiler.

In responding, please restate the question in bold font and respond in unbolded font. Send the original and two hard copies with the Verification Under Oath to me at the Green Mountain Care Board, 89 Main Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05620. Also send an identical electronic PDF copy to donna.jerry@vermont.gov

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 802-828-2918.

Sincerely,

s/ Donna Jerry

Donna Jerry

Senior Health Policy Analyst

cc. Vermont Department of Public Service
Renewable Energy Vermont

